



Vol. XXVI, Issue 21

Ca Hikiruxe wira | Deer Mating Moon

November 15, 2013



Page 8

Ho-Chunk Gaming Black River Falls sponsors Marine Corps Ball for the Mitchell RedCloud Jr. Marine Corps League Detachment

Marlon WhiteEagle
Editor

On November 9, 2013, the Mitchell RedCloud Jr. Marine Corps League Detachment hosted the 238th Marine Corps Birthday Ball at the Cranberry Lodge in Tomah, Wisconsin. This is the third birthday ball hosted by the RedCloud Detachment. Ho-Chunk Gaming Black River Falls was a major sponsor of the birthday ball.

The first ceremony of the evening was the preparing the Marines and POW/MIA tables. A single dinner setting is prepared for comrades gone but not forgotten. A candle is lit, and salt sprinkled on the plate in remembrance. Once the tables were prepared, the Chaplain offered his prayer.

The colors were presented and the Commandant of the Marine Corps message is read. Here's the Commandant's message:

For 238 years, The United States Marine Corps has proudly served our great Nation with unfailing valor – bolstered by the enduring fortitude of our fellow Marines, our families,

and our friends. This is why each year on November 10th, Marines from all generations gather together, in groups large and small, to celebrate the birthday of our Corps and to reflect on the proud legacy and warrior ethos we share. This is what unites us as Marines. From our first battle at New Providence to today in Afghanistan, Marines have always shown that they were made of tougher stuff – that when the enemy's fire poured in from all angles, and the situation was grim, Marines unequivocally knew that their fellow Marines would stay behind their guns, fight courageously, and drive the enemy from the battlefield. We have always known hardship, fatigue, and pain...but we have never known what it is to lose a battle!

Marine of generations past built our reputation as the most disciplined and honorable warriors to ever set foot on a battlefield, and we have triumphed in every battle because our Corps has always focused on iron discipline and combat excellence. This is who we are... this is what we do! It matters not whether you carried an M-1, and M-14, or an M-16. It matters not whether you fought on a lonely island in the Pacific, assaulted a cita-



M1 Rifle was presented to the Ho-Chunk Nation President Jon Greendeer.

del in the jungle, or marched up to Baghdad. It matters not whether you are a grunt, a pilot or a loggie. What matters most is that, when the chips were down and things got tough, your fellow Marines could count on you to stand and fight...and fight we did!

This year, we celebrate the anniversary of several epic battles in our celebrated history: the 70th anniversary of the 2nd Marine Division landing on Tarawa, the 45th anniversary of the Battle of Hue City, and the 10th anniversary of the "March Up" to Baghdad. Marines who fought in these legendary battles each made their mark upon the history of our Corps. They have passed a rich and illustrious legacy on to us – a much heralded reputation. It is ours to jeal-

ously guard, and it is up to us to make our own marks and thus proudly pass it on to the generations of Marines who will follow.

Sergeant Major Michael Barrett joins me in congratulating each of you. Because of you, your selfless service, and your many sacrifices, our Corps remains strong and ready to respond to any crisis. Throughout history, Marines have faced tough times and there will be tough times ahead, but there is no challenge we cannot overcome if we remain honorable and always faithful to our Nation, our Constitution and each other. Happy Birthday, Marines!

Semper Fidelis,

James F. Amos
General, U.S.
Marine Corps
Commandant of the
Marine Corps

Next was the presentation of the cake and reading of the Marine Corps Order #47, followed by the cake cutting ceremony. Three pieces of cake are cut and given to the guest of honor, the oldest Marine present, and the youngest Marine present. Ken Rynes, the Commander of the Wisconsin Department of American Legion, served as the guest of honor. Vernetta Fish, 90, was the oldest Marine present, while Courtney Clements, 19, was the youngest Marine.

The colors were retreated and the meal was served.

A special presentation of a M1 rifle was made to Ho-Chunk Nation President Jon Greendeer from the Mitchell RedCloud Jr. Detachment. President Greendeer made brief comments and give time to Ho-Chunk tribal member and Marine Corps veterans who were present to introduce themselves. Those present were Jim Greendeer, Colin Carrimon, Fredrick "Haga" Greendeer, Lance Rave, John Hizer, and myself.

The rifle was detailed with engraved designs of the Congressional Medal of Honor and the Great Seal

Continued on Page 8



Youngest Marine, Courtney Clements, 19, receives the cake from Oldest Marine, Vernetta Fish, 90, during the cake cutting ceremony.

INSIDE SCOOP...

Letters	Page 2
Health	Page 3
Youth	Page 4-6
News	Page 7
Veterans Day	Page 8-9
News	Page 10
Legals	Page 11
Gaming	Page 11-12
Notices	Page 13-14
Announcements	Page 15
Good News	Page 16

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Kenosha Casino numbers don't add up

Collin Price, Public Relations Officer, HCN

Two years ago Governor Scott Walker laid out his criteria to the State of Wisconsin that would have to be met before he would agree to off-reservation gaming. He stated his criteria were firm and he stated his deadline for a 60 day review period would not be extended. The Ho-Chunk Nation remains confident that the Governor will abide by his criteria and make a decision in the near future.

The Menominee and Seminole Tribes submitted an analysis regarding the proposed Kenosha casino to the Governor. This analysis was reviewed by the Innovation Group, a nationally recognized gaming market analysis firm that has conducted more than 1000 gaming market analyses. Further, Governor Walker said that the Menominee had recommended Innovation Group as an entity that could provide an accurate analysis of the Kenosha project. The Group found a number of errors, omissions, and

misinformation contained in the presentation.

"I feel very confident that this analysis will paint a much more accurate picture of the impact of a Kenosha Casino," said Jon Greendeer, President of the Ho-Chunk Nation. "We agree with the Menominee that this firm is a reliable expert to determine these impacts," he continued.

The analysis questions the level of new market growth estimated by the Menominee and Seminole Tribes, determining that participation in gaming would have to grow almost 66% in order for revenue to hit the marks these Tribes are claiming, ... "an extremely high number considering current gaming supply."

The analysis goes on to uncover inconsistent data sources used by the Menominee and Seminole, as well as using invalid time periods for assessing impacts. The analysis shows that Menominee and Seminole presentation took some liberties with hypothetical information and manipulated it to their advantage.

The criteria set out by the Governor includes consent must be given by all 11 tribes in Wisconsin. The Ho-Chunk Nation continues to withhold its consent for a number of reasons and therefore the Governor's criteria are not met.

To view the Innovation Group's most recent analysis visit Ho-ChunkNation.com

Dear Editor

I wanted to share the following FreeEnterprise.com blog post, written by the U.S. Chamber's Director for Native American Enterprise, Dan Mahoney, on the issue of Contract Support Costs.

Capping Contract Support Costs is a Roadblock for Tribes by Dan Mahoney, Nov 11, 2013

Last month, the U.S. Chamber's Native American Enterprise Initiative (NAEI), an initiative that seeks to remove legislative and regulatory roadblocks to economic success in Indian Country, wrote a letter to Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius voicing our strong support of the Tribal position on issue of Contract Support Costs (CSC), which are part of the funding given to Indian tribes to contract with the federal government to operate programs serving their tribal members (and other eligible persons).

In the last year the Administration has made efforts, without tribal consultation, to cap CSC funding.

There is a long history of the full contract support costs not being paid to the tribes and Alaska Native Corporations (ANCs) who have contracted/compacted with the federal government to provide services that the government would otherwise provide. This has resulted in two notable Supreme Court decisions in favor of the tribes (Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma v. Leavitt, 2005, and Salazar v. Ramah Navajo Chapter, 2012). In each case, the Supreme Court held that a contract with the federal government to reimburse the tribe for contract support costs was binding, despite the failure of Congress to appropriate funds for those costs. The U.S. Chamber filed amicus briefs in favor of the Tribes' position in both cases.

As a result of the ruling, the President's FY2014 Budget Request included a request for "both the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the [Indian Health Service] IHS," with "a line-item appropriation with a maximum amount of funding available for each Tribal contract or compact." If federal (under)funding continues at the same level as FY 2013, it is estimated that the combined Indian Health Service and Bureau of Indian Affairs CSC shortfall for FY 2014 may be around \$110 million, or 17 percent of the total commitment to Indian Country.

In the last few weeks, the National Tribal Contract Support Cost Coalition (NTCSCC) has sent two letters – signed by more than 80 tribal leaders – to the President asking him to facilitate a quick resolution to the outstanding historic claims over unpaid contract support costs as decided in Salazar v. Ramah Navajo Chapter. Additionally, the NTCSCC letters have requested that the Administration abandon their efforts to cap CSC funding, likening it to an attempt to overrule the Supreme Court's rulings with provisions that "are intended to eliminate all future contract claims."

The U.S. Chamber, along with tribal leaders across the country, is strongly urging the Administration to withdraw their flawed proposal and work with tribal governments and the Congressional Committees of jurisdiction to find an equitable solution.

Sally-Shannon Birkel, Senior Manager of Media Relations
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
1615 H Street, NW, Washington, DC 20062
202-463-5682 • sbirkel@uschamber.com

Ho-Chunk Area Golf Association Meeting

December 7, 2013
Nekoosa at the Rainbow Grille
Start time 10:00 am

We'll be getting ready for our next year's season. Bring your golf dates, and issues for the agenda

Public meeting notice:
Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health
Health Accreditation Board

Regular monthly meeting to be held: 9:00 AM November 15th, 2013

Community Classroom
Ho-Chunk Health Care Center
N6520 Lumber Jack Guy Road, Black River Falls, WI 54615

Call for more information or if special accommodation is required: (715) 284-9851

The following people need to contact the Department of Housing as soon as possible
(608) 374-1225 • Ask for Vikki Shisler or Sheila Stout

Alvin Rockman	Keith Dick	Anthony Friday
Annette Littlewolf	Kirk Matcha	Benjamin Bearskin III
Barbara Lowe	Linda Hopinkah-Cabirtac	Judith Youngthunder
Carole St. Cyr	Marguerite Whiteagle	Maureen Bighorn
Coleen Finn	Mari Hence	Nicole Houghton
Darlene Greengrass	Patricia Thompson	Robert Orozco
Dawn Littlejohn	Reginald Delarosa	Rose Logan
Harlan Hendrix	Teala Edwards	Tara Raese
Howard Bell	Angela Clayton	
Jacob Green Sr.	Anna Vidana-Brown	

Greetings!

I'm sure you have all heard the saying, "The program only works as well, as the information put into the system". The Ho-Chunk Nation Housing Department is working on updating our contact information for our Home Ownership Program (HOP) applicants. This year a mass mailing was done. Over a hundred (100+) undeliverable mail was returned to our office. This is part of the saying, "the information put into the system". The contact information Housing has in our system needs to be updated from our HOP applicants. The following HOP applicants need to update their contact information:

00119	01823	00279	01946	01544
02224	02156	01016	01302	02109
00001	01368	01735	01532	01045
01728	00656	00777	01671	01018
01310	01321	01213	02322	00868
01856	00520	01274	01102	00186
01802	01836	02162	01221	00573
01391	01963	01197	02291	01017
00471	01175	02340	01965	01853
02125	01980	02161	01811	01964
01664	00942	02101	01531	01239
00803	02017	01380	00357	00358
00841	00325	00953	00661	01161
00784	01389	00882	01250	00598
01240	01376	02079	01038	02338
01299	01692	01607	00747	01182
01497	00784	02084	01481	00833
01459	00561	00737	00791	00997
01770	02337	00609	02288	02031
01629	01486	01098	01759	01851
00748	01443	01546	00534	01535
01609	01701	01356	01819	01215
00608	01682	01407	01447	00442
01005	00548	00612	01894	01982
00577	01812	01395	00883	01723
00601	02013	00719	02036	01815
02041	01883	01653	01606	01109

Don't know your HOP # - Please feel free to contact Vicki Shisler, Assistant Real Estate Manager at (608)374-1225 Ext. 5913 or Vicki.Shisler@Ho-Chunk.com to acquire your HOP #, and provide your current contact information.

Health Insurance Under the Affordable Care Act

Who's eligible and what the law requires of insurers and plans

There is a great deal of information being distributed about the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Some of this information is incredibly helpful, some of it is confusing, and some of it is just wrong. Over the next few months, we hope to clarify the issues for you and avoid muddying the waters further by doing a series of ACA-related articles.

Many Wisconsinites are entering the Health Insurance Marketplace (also known as the "Health Care Exchange") to obtain their health insurance. There are several important Affordable Care Act (ACA) rules they should be aware of, which are described below.

First, to be eligible for health insurance on the Marketplace, the individual must:

- Be a U.S. citizen or a lawfully-present non-citizen.
- Not be incarcerated.
- Live in a Marketplace's service area.

Second, health insurance rates may only vary from individual to individual because of the following:

- Tobacco use
- Geographic region
- Age (but only to three times the initial rate)

- Self-only or family premiums

Third, more information about specific insurance rates and an individual's ability to qualify for subsidies or BadgerCare is available on healthcare.gov. For example, to qualify for BadgerCare in 2014, a non-pregnant adult must have a modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) under 100% of the federal poverty level. DHS is expected to release the MAGI formula on November 18, 2013.

Next, health insurance companies can no longer do any of the following:

- Deny insurance because of a preexisting condition (children now and adults in 2014)
- Set lifetime dollar limits on care
- Set annual dollar limits on care (effective 2014)
- Drop coverage if an individual gets sick
- Charge women more for coverage

Health insurance companies may terminate coverage if the premiums are not paid or if the person was untruthful on the insurance application. More information will be provided on payment-related issues at a later date.

Under the ACA, health insurance companies are also required to:

- Justify publically any premium increase of 10% or more.
- Spend premiums prudently. Generally, insurance companies will be required to follow the "80/20" rule. This rule requires 80% of the premium dollars to be spent on health care and 20% on administrative costs.

Lastly, all marketplace health insurance plans must offer certain "essential benefits." Those essential benefits include the following:

- Pediatric services
- Emergency services
- Hospitalization
- Ambulatory patient services
- Maternity and newborn care
- Preventative and wellness services
- Chronic disease management
- Laboratory services
- Mental health and substance use disorder services, including behavioral health treatment
- Prescription drugs
- Rehabilitative and habilitative services

These essential services are the minimum a qualified health plan (QHP) must provide. Insurers may choose to provide additional services. The federal review of insurers is complete. Information about the available plans is available at healthcare.gov. Just select the State you wish to preview plans and prices.

Published with permission from the Legal Services Team at the Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources' Elder Law & Advocacy Center.

Special Marketplace protections and benefits

If you're an American Indian or an Alaska Native you may have new health insurance benefits and protections in the Marketplace.

Some benefits are available to members of federally recognized tribes. Others are available to people of Indian descent or who are otherwise eligible for services from the Indian Health Service, tribal program, or urban Indian health program.

The Health Insurance Marketplace benefits American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/ANs) by providing opportunities for affordable health coverage. This coverage can be through a private health plan bought in the Marketplace, Medicaid, or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

If you're a member of a federally recognized tribe:

- If you buy private insurance in the Health Insurance Marketplace, you won't have to pay out-of-pocket costs like deductibles, copayments, and coinsurance if your income is up to around \$70,650 for a family of 4 (\$88,320 in Alaska). (These are 2013 figures, and likely to be slightly higher in 2014.)

- You can enroll in Marketplace health insurance any month, not just during the yearly open enrollment period.

If you're an American Indian or Alaska Native or are otherwise eligible for services from the Indian Health Service, tribal program, or urban Indian health program:

- You have special cost and eligibility rules for Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) that make it easier to qualify for these programs.
- If you don't have health insurance, you won't have to pay the fee that most other people without health insurance must pay starting in 2014.

Indian Health Services and Marketplace insurance

If you enroll in a private health insurance plan through the Health Insurance Marketplace:

- You can get (or keep getting) services from the Indian Health Service, tribal health programs, or urban Indian health programs.
- You can also get services from any providers on the Marketplace plan.

IS THE NEW HEALTH INSURANCE MARKETPLACE FOR YOU?



NO

If you're on **Medicare**, you don't need to do anything on the Marketplace during open enrollment.
If you're **insured by your employer**, you don't need to do anything. You can continue to stay on your employer group plan.

MAYBE

If you're on **Medicaid (such as Badgercare in Wisconsin)**, you will receive a letter explaining your status.
If you **think your insurance is not affordable**, the Marketplace may help.
If you are a **veteran**, you can explore your options at healthcare.gov.

YES

If you're **uninsured**.
If you're **underinsured**.
Enroll Oct. 1-March 31 at healthcare.gov.

To Enroll

October 1 - March 31

Wisconsin
www.healthcare.gov • 1-800-318-2596
TTY: 1-855-889-4325

Minnesota
www.mnstate.org • (855) 366-7873

Iowa
www.healthcare.gov • 1-800-318-2596
TTY: 1-855-889-4325

HealthCare.gov

What IS the Health Insurance Marketplace?

The Health Insurance Marketplace provides a new way to buy health insurance. The Marketplace lets you:

- See available options.
- Decide what fits your needs and budget.
- Apply for coverage and determine if you qualify for a federal tax subsidy.

What do you need to enroll?

1. Social Security Numbers (or document numbers for legal immigrants).
2. Employer and income information for every member of your household who needs coverage (pay stub or W-2, etc.).
3. Policy numbers for current health insurance plans covering members of your household.
4. If anyone in your household is eligible for a job-based insurance plan, you will need to have their employer complete an Employer Coverage Tool (available on the healthcare.gov website).

You may qualify for lower premiums or out-of-pocket costs, based on your household income and size.

In 2014, an individual making up to about \$45,000, or a family of 4 making up to about \$94,000, may qualify for these lower costs.

There will be penalties if you don't enroll in a health plan.

The Marketplace is open Oct. 1 through March 31

You can enroll in the Marketplace between October 1, 2013 and March 31, 2014. After that you'll need to wait for the next open enrollment starting in October, 2014 (unless circumstances change – marriage, divorce, a baby or a move to a new coverage area).

Enroll before Dec. 15 for coverage to start Jan. 1.

Gundersen Health System – A Partner in the Western Region Enrollment Network

The Hocak Worak is a periodical published twice monthly by the Ho-Chunk Nation. Editorials and articles appearing in the Hocak Worak are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or attitude of the Hocak Worak staff or the Ho-Chunk Nation.

The Hocak Worak encourages the submission of letters to the Editor. All letters must include the signature, address and telephone number of the author. Letters are subject to editing for grammar, length, malicious and libelous content. The Hocak Worak reserves the right to reject any advertising, material, or letters submitted for publication. The submission of articles, poetry, artwork and photos is encouraged. The Editor makes the sole decision of what is published in the Hocak Worak. The Hocak Worak will not assume any responsibility for unsolicited material.

Submissions deadlines for the Hocak Worak are by 4:30 PM. We cannot guarantee the publication of submissions meeting these deadlines if the space is not available. No part of this publication may be produced without express written consent from the Editor.

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www.hocakworak.com

Attention: The Next Deadline of the Hocak Worak will be Nov. 22nd which will be published on Nov. 29th. Please contact Enrollment at ext. 1015 if you have a change of address or would like to be placed on the mailing list.

Youth Council at General Council

Submitted by Lanette Walker, Lead Advisor

As the Ho-Chunk tribal membership met for their Annual Meeting on Saturday September 28, 2013 the Youth Council worked around everything that was happening. Youth Council officers and members from Wittenberg, Nekoosa, Black River Falls and the Dells/Baraboo areas met in the back of the buffet for their meeting and a meal. The Youth Councils met with the guidance of their Advisors to discuss what their mission was for the day.

Each participant was given a folder for the day and the content of that folder included; the Constitution of the Ho-Chunk Nation, 2013 General Council booklet, the Ho-Chunk Nation Annual Report, Community Service info and log sheet and a four page worksheet.

The participants were asked to organize themselves in groups with people they were not familiar with and began meeting others. The beginning part of the day was spent eating and learning about Youth Council expectations and responsibilities. They also spent time looking through the materials that members over the age of 18 receive when they attend General Council. One of the resolutions that was up for debate was the resolution to Prohibit Children Under The Age of 18 From Attending General Council, page 44 of the booklet. We asked them to consider this resolution, to think about it and create a stance on it in their groups. Each Advisor present had to pick a group and sit and guide them through this activity. Each group was asked to designate a speaker and give their statement. Most groups were for it as long as the children were well behaved. Other groups were split 50/50 and some good arguments were given for and against children under 18 being there with their parents.

After the opening exercise and the public speaking practice they headed down to put in some community service time serving the elders. After that they were given worksheets to complete. The worksheets were based on the Constitution, the General Council meeting itself, the Annual Report and feedback from the membership. They received extra consideration if they could collect signatures and speak to any of the General Council Agency committee members, the President, Legislators or any of the Executive Directors. They were asked to create questions of their own to ask the membership.

In the end before they departed they were asked to reflect on their experience with General Council. Desiree Rave reflected, "I learned about how the first steps for a general council starts. I sat in for a few minutes and watched the chairman call the meeting to order. They voted on how long they had to ravel, and the number needed for quorum is

1,099. Since the elder said a prayer, he was saying some in Ho-Chunk and I got most of what he was saying. I also learned about having a conversation with President Jon, he was giving me a lot of information about how general council works; about the time given for a participant to speak up about their problem and they are given about 5 minutes.

Calista Stumblingbear writes, "I learned about different tribal members. We could be able to stand up for ourselves and be heard. We are a tribe and we work together. We should be able to vote or stand up for what we believe in because if it means we get to learn about our relations, tribe and our nation. At first this worksheet was very complicated and confusing, but some other groups helped me catch up. This was a new experience for me and I'm glad I got to do this.

Sylvia Bissonette explains, "What I learned today was what the people's thought of what the problems were at General Council and the positions of the people of the Ho-Chunk Nation. I also learned the process of how General Council starts their meetings. A lot goes into it because they have to get all the people in the same place and get them to vote. Before I didn't really realize how much goes into General Council, but today it made me see and learn about General Council and the branches and rules of it all.

Sylvia Walker states, "I learned that there are a lot of people with important jobs in the government. It was a good experience to be able to talk to the different people and what they do within the Nation and the way some of the talked to explain things was really interesting and really enjoyable. I also liked how we did our community service, helping serve the elders plates for lunch. We got to interact and talk with a few of them, asked what they thought about General Council. Today was an all around good and educational day.

Cheyenne Mike writes, "I thought this was a very good experience. I really liked that we got to talk to the different people. We learned about their roles and different things they do within our nation. We got to see the different views other people have on General Council. We had the chance to meet and accompany different people. We also got to see the different districts and see the different numbers in them. I learned a lot about this experience and hope we can do this again next year.

Lawrence Walker III states, "What I learned today was that General Council in some people's mind is a place to get business done and in others it is about money. I also learned that most resolutions sometimes don't get done. Another thing I learned is how much effort and time goes into planning Gen-



Front Row: Calista Stumblingbear, Cheyenne Mike, Justine Rasha
Middle Row: Cheyenne Wesely, Olivia Anderson, Memphis Cleveland, Summer Rain, Sylvia Bissonette
Back Row: Joe Smith, Honey Dakota, Laryssa Walker, Lawrence Walker III, Sylvia Walker, Desiree Rave, Tristan Brown
Participants Not Pictured: Kayla Guerrero and Savannah Brown

eral Council. Finally I learned who legislators and representatives are.

Joe Smith writes, "I learned a lot today. I didn't think I was going to have fun, but I did. I got to meet new people, and got to see some new faces. It was a really great experience for me. I had a really great time.

Laryssa Walker reports, "I learned more about quorum, culture and that public speaking and talking with people isn't bad after you start doing it. After a while, talking and interacting with others becomes enjoyable. I also learned more about who are some of the Executive Directors and their titles. I learned we can accomplish more as a Nation!

Thank you to all of the tribal membership that answered questions for the young people who came through and asked you questions about the process.

2nd Annual Youth and Family College Expo

It's here, and you're invited!

The Ho-Chunk Education Department will be hosting its 2nd Annual Youth and Family College Expo on December 14, 2013, at the Tribal Office Building in Black River Falls. Youth Services, along with the Family Services Program, are teaming up with the Education Department to help make this event another success. Many families and Ho-Chunk Youth Centers are expected to be in attendance. Lunch will be provided, and the event will serve 3rd -12th grade students and their parents.

This free event is part of an initiative to guide Ho-Chunk young people on the path to becoming college graduates. The event will include a series of educational workstations by college institutions, as well as a guest speaker to inspire the youth. The goal of the Expo is to introduce students/families to college programs and career opportunities. Also, we will encourage youth to start planning their futures by providing real life, hands-on activities with college faculty. The interactive learning provided through simulations, demonstrations, and competitions is what makes this event different from other college fairs.

Parents are invited to participate in separate workshops that will inform them on ways they can help prepare

their children for college. Topics covered in these workshops include registering for ACT/SAT exams, visiting a college campus, applying to schools, financial aid options (such as scholarships, grants and loans), filing a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), and will touch on life skills to encourage their children to develop before setting off on their own. Staff from the HCN Higher Education Division and HCN School & Community Relations Division will be available to answer specific questions regarding what the HCN Education Department can assist you with.

Overall, the Expo will empower parents with the knowledge to make college a reality for their children and it will also introduce students to a variety of academic programs. All families are invited to attend.

Date: December 14, 2013
Location: Ho-Chunk Tribal Office Building
Black River Falls, WI
Time: 12-4pm
(Registration begins at 11 am)
Food & Prizes Included

For further information about the event, please contact:
Jordan Kappen at (715) 284-4915 or
Jordan.kappen@ho-chunk.com

Sponsored by: The Ho-Chunk Nation:
Education Department, Youth Services & Family Services
Program

Yes, it's back!

The 2nd Annual

Youth and Family College Expo

Saturday,
December 14, 2013
12pm-4pm
Ho-Chunk Nation
Tribal Office
Building
Registration begins at
11 am

Win great prizes!

Attention parents!
New and especially for you:

Preparing for College:
the Parent's Perspective

Learn about the application
process, FAFSA, scholarships
& grants, and get answers to
your questions!

College workshops for
Students Grades 3-12

Topics include:
• Veterinary Technician
• Athletic Training
• Criminal Justice
• Apparel Design
• Entrepreneurship
• Natural Resources
• Nursing
• And more!

Lunch will
be provided!

Contact Recruitment & Pre-College Advisors Jordan Kappen
or MicahMarie McCann with any questions: 800-362-4476

The Ho-Chunk Players return this fall

Submitted by the Wisconsin Dells Youth and Learning Center

On Thursday November 7th the Ho-Chunk Players resumed shooting their video and short film projects after a long layoff with the topic of "bullying" the subject for their latest shoot.

With this subject getting as much attention as it has, the group decided to address it in their own way using a more comical but serious approach to why people feel it necessary to treat others this way.

The group has shot some PSA's before and also about 20 short films which can be seen of the groups Facebook page and also on YouTube if you search Ho-Chunk Players or Funmaker Films.

The crew which at one time grew to about 40 youth participants has started out a bit smaller this year but with all the excitement and expecta-

tions of the former members of which, some of them now have moved on to college and a young adult life.

The group started in 2008 when writer, director, filmmaker, and tribal member Sherman Funmaker along with long time youth coordinator Chuck Davis teamed up to gather this talented group of kids.

Chuck Davis had started a theatre group just a short time before Funmaker came in and volunteered his experience and talent to the theatre troupe.

"I came on after taking film, acting and playwright classes at the University of New Mexico in 2007 and wanted to work with the kids to help develop talents that may have been untapped. The Nation had really helped with my education and I wanted to give back so I thought that using my experience and education



Sherman Funmaker directs the actors in the Public Service Announcement on "bullying".

I could hopefully help these kids find another outlet in their after school activities" Funmaker said.

The group had been taking a short break that turned into a long break when schedule and timing issues came up with Funmaker and Davis and the Wisconsin Dells Youth and Learning Center.

The film and theatre group has always been interested in addressing issues that deal with natives, native life and the everyday life of a Ho-Chunk teen.

Of course, many of these short films were nothing but comedies that were thrown together at the last minute.

"Because we never knew

how many kids would show up, we had to use who was there and with little or no script we had to depend on the kids improvisational skills, but really I think it helped with the feel of the production and the final product after it was all said and done" Funmaker said.

There will be some returning performers that are ready to get back to doing some video projects and using their experience to help the ones that will be joining the group this year.

The group would like to eventually talk the tribal leaders into forming the Nations own Media center where they could learn to shoot our own

language, cultural, training and entertainment broadcasts.

The group has been mainly shooting short videos for entertainment, but would like to get more training in the actual production, editing and all aspects of video production and development.

"There has been students that wanted to learn not just the acting process, but the behind the camera aspects of video production and we are leaning more toward that part of the film process this year." Funmaker added.

The Ho-Chunk Players are looking to do projects using the H-Chunk language with the help of language teachers and apprentices.



The Ho-Chunk Players start with a small group for the first shoot of the season starring Tristan Walker, Sylvia Bissonette, Tianna Decora, Everett Menore, Cheyenne Mike and Justine Rasha.

Local market donates to Ho-Chunk Youth Program

Sherman Funmaker
Staff Writer

This time of the year we all look forward to the holidays. The leaves are changing and the thought of winter is upon us. We start to prepare for what's ahead.

With Halloween upon us, the Ho-Chunk Nation's youth workers are again planning events to do with the students that they care for. The Wisconsin Dells Youth and Learning Center located at the House of Wellness in Baraboo, Wisconsin, in planning for the holidays, went out and

asked for donations among some of the local merchants. One of the merchants stepped up and helped out this year.

The family-owned and local farm, family fun activity center and garden, the Country Bumpkin Farm Market located at on County Road P just west of Lake Delton has this year, like in years past donated about seventy five home grown pumpkins to the Wisconsin Dells Youth Center.

Owners Cindy and Charley Rhinehart, who have been at the location for years saw the need and answered the call.

They pick their homegrown produce daily (during seasons) and they feature strawberries, raspberries, blueberries, grapes, melons, sweet corn, tomatoes and of course, pumpkins.

They also have a bakery, greenhouses and gift shop which offer baked goods, farm fresh eggs, jams and jellies and their own honey and popcorn.

Their Lil' Bumpkin Play Village and Petting farm features a play house, school and church. They also have



Youth Coordinators Jessica McMillan, Sandra Decorah and long time youth worker Chuck Davis with some of the 75 pumpkins that were donated.

pedal tractors and a pedal kart raceway.

"We went around and put out donation letters to the local merchants and they were the only ones that stepped up. We went to about everyone we could think of and they came through for the kids" said Wisconsin Dells Youth Coordinator, Jessica McMillan.

McMillan is just one of the youth workers that help care for the one hundred and thirty students or so, that come through the center on a weekly basis under the supervision of Director Melanie Goodbear.

Along with McMillan, her co-worker Sandra Decorah helped with the picking of the pumpkins, all of which were

handpicked out of the market garden.

The Youth Center will be using the pumpkins to decorate during their annual Halloween program this year.

Some of the pumpkins will also go to the newly formed Mauston area youth center located at the Mauston High School.



The Country Bumpkin Farm Market donated 75 handpicked pumpkins to the Wisconsin Dells Youth and Learning Center.

The new Mauston Area Youth Center opens this school year with its own Halloween celebration

Sherman Funmaker
Staff Writer

Until recently students that wanted to take advantage of after-school tutoring and other activities had to be transported to the Wisconsin Dells Youth and Learning Center in Baraboo at the House of Wellness. This newly formed learning center started this holiday season with its own Halloween celebration with about 28 students and families in attendance.

All of that has changed as of this year when the Ho-Chunk Nations legislators allocated funds to help with the forming of this new and much needed youth center for the students from the Mauston and Lyndon Station area.

Funds were also obtained by Title 7 grants. The purpose

of Title 7 monies is to support the efforts of local educational agencies, Indian tribes and organizations, postsecondary institutions, and other entities to meet the unique educational and culturally related academic needs of American Indian and Alaskan Native students, so that such students can meet the same challenging State student academic achievement standards as all other students are expected to meet.

The Mauston area has been in need of their own youth center for a while and with this latest action from the Ho-Chunk Nation legislators the youth center finally became a reality.

There is credit due to all that made this possible including the Nations legislators, the Mauston Area School District,

high school principal Jim Dillin and of course our own Chuck Davis and Sandra Decorah, Wisconsin Dells Youth and Learning Center Youth Coordinators among the recognized.

According to Katie Nienhaus, Mauston Learning Center Home School coordinator, the talk of Mauston having its own youth center has been going on for a couple of years but now with the program having some 30 kids to service, the time was right to start the center which is housed at the Mauston High School.

Mauston High School principal Jim Dillin said that the move to the high school was a welcome move and he and the school district are very happy to be working along with the



Students Zhane Berg, Misty Bieseck, Bobby Morris and youth worker Sandra Decorah.



Language teacher Joyce Warner.



Youth worker Chuck Davis served as emcee for the Halloween party.

Ho-Chunk Nation to make this study center a reality.

“One of the things that that the principal does is handle all of the grants including the Title 7 grant, which is a grant that supports Native American students and any supports anything that the students may need to be academically successful in school.” Dillin said.

Along with the study help that the youth workers give the students will also be receiving Ho-Chunk language classes that are being taught there by Joyce Warner.

“I was enjoying my life after I quit working and was ignoring calls when Sandra Decorah called and asked me if I could help teaching the kids Ho-Chunk...I didn’t really want to but they were


persistent so I finally gave in and agreed to come and help the kids learn Ho-Chunk.” Joyce said.

She stated later that it was a good move for her to come and help out. She feels good about helping and the kids are so very eager to learn and Joyce said the kids make her laugh and make it a joy for her to share her stories and teach.

Their Halloween party was held on November 1, 2013 and was considered a success by those that attended. The Mauston Youth Center also wanted to thank the Mauston Chapter of the Native American Church for their generous donation to help fund the Halloween event.

WOMEN'S TALKING CIRCLE

ITTEENBERG AREA




ALL WOMEN ARE WELCOME TO JOIN OUR MONTHLY WOMEN'S TALKING CIRCLE

November: Sewing Part 2

Topic: Setting Goals, Following Through with Goals

Activity: Continue Sewing Project

All supplies will be provided for, for the first 12 women



TIME: 6-7 P.M.

WHEN: Tuesday, November26, 2013

WHERE: N7240 US Hwy. 45
Wittenberg, WI



CONTACT: 715-851-1812
715-793-4863
Jan Red Cloud

Meeting on the last Tuesday each month


(Topics subject to change should speakers be unavailable)

Strength in Unity

Sponsored by: the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Social Services
Domestic Violence Program



Quilting Bee



Did you ever want to learn how to quilt a star quilt? D1CC is offering a class to teach you how to make a star quilt. Every Friday starting November 8, 2013 from 6pm—8:30pm at District One Community Center. Hope to see you here for a fun time.

Things you need to bring


- Fabric—1 yard of fabric per color
(For Baby quilts 4yards of fabric total-2-4 colors
For Queen quilts 6 yards of fabric total 2-6 colors)
- Sewing machine (if you have one)

Date: Friday, November 15, 2013
Time: 6:00—8:30

Where: District One Community Center

Contact Melissa at 715-284-0905

District One Community Center



Ho-Chunk officials travel to Madison to oppose sand mining bill

Ken Luchterhand
Staff Writer

The developing issue of frac sand mining in the state even grew more contentious on Thursday, Oct. 24, when testimony was heard about Senate 349 at the state Capitol in Madison, Wisconsin.

The bill, authored by Sen. Tom Tiffany, R-Hazelhurst, and Rep. Joan Ballweg, R-Markesan, would retroactively nullify licensing agreements between towns, cities and counties with frac sand mining companies.

The bill also would allow the state to set the standards for the mining operations, not

solutely not, because it does not shut down current mines. I think it's worth pointing out that the Trempealeau County Board passed the moratorium in August and here we are on October 24."

Danou questioned why the bill has been "fast-tracked" for a vote, while he has authored bills that have sat in limbo for more than a year and not even been discussed.

Relying on the DNR for monitoring sand operations is problematic because the DNR does not have enough staff to complete the added duties.

The recent state budget allows hiring two more DNR

we don't know what chemicals we are testing for. I need to know how to tell her why our state legislators, by even introducing this legislation, are telling local Wisconsin residents that the decisions of the towns they live in are best made in Madison. This is a corrosion of our political structure and redefines Civics and governance as we've known it since we were all walking the halls of our elementary school.

"The Ho-Chunk Nation is aware of what and this legislation seeks. While many could argue it simply paves the way for Frac sand mining by bulldozing any community that rejects or questions the industry's impacts on their communities, it is a clear subjugation of the Wisconsin citizen and his or her voice that comprises our democracy at its most granular level," Greendeer wrote.

"To say that there would be many townships affected by this legislation is false. Every township would be affected. Frac sand mining is an insidious industry affecting the roadways, aesthetics, and health of communities differently. The first victim is our democracy; the very democracy that each of you and I raised our hands to protect. Our tribe is governed by our people. Republican or Democrat, tribal or not, we all know the principles of good governance and that SB 349 abandons those very principles to which we serve. The Ho-Chunk Nation stands in



Rep. Chris Danou (left) and Sen. Kathleen Vinehout gave testimony against the proposed bill, saying that it would adversely affect Western Wisconsin residents.

strong opposition to legislation that sits before us today," Greendeer wrote.

Also in opposition to the bill was Education Department Director Adrienne Thunder.

"U.S. Silica announced its plan this past Monday to build one of the state's largest proposed frac sand mines on the lands that completely surround my grandmother's property, and not only her property, but that of my first cousin Penny and her family. The proposed mine also affects my parents, Gordon and Beverly Thunder, who live within a mile of the proposed site," Thunder wrote.

"The thought of the beauty and significance of this most precious place to so many, including four generations of my family, and to me, being

surrounded by mounds of sand, trucking and rail traffic, contaminated pools of water, and leaving the land scarred, polluted and unrecognizable, shakes me with grief, right to my core," she wrote.

"We have seen repeated instances of the scenario I've described in the name of economic development. Soon, the land and water we all find so beautiful and bountiful will become a thing of the past," Thunder wrote. "The short-term, uneven economic gains from the mining industry will not be worth the long-term, widely suffered damage done to us who live in these affected cities, towns and villages. When the jobs and resources are gone, the only thing left to us will be devastation – to our families, our homes, our communities."



Members of the Senate Workforce Development, Forestry, Mining and Revenue Committee listened to testimony concerning a proposed bill that would transfer local control to state control.

the local governments. Any monitoring of air and water quality would be the responsibility of the state, and the bill would prevent local governments from imposing any regulations on air and water for any industry, not just frac sand mining.

Testimony from opponents and proponents of the bill were heard before the Senate Workforce Development, Forestry, Mining and Revenue Committee. Those set to testify were Ho-Chunk President Jon Greendeer and Education Director Adrienne Thunder. Many other Ho-Chunk members were present for the hearings.

Two local state representatives who were vehemently opposed to the bill were Rep. Chris Danou, D-Trempealeau and Sen. Kathleen Vinehout, D-Alma.

"This bill has a broader reach than the frac sand industry," Vinehout said. "It is really an anti-environmental bill that is cloaked in the garb of needing to create more frac sand jobs."

Previously, state Department of Natural Resources spokesman Bill Cosh had admitted that the DNR does not monitor or regulate silica dust, the dust released into the air from frac sand operations.

Trempealeau County has the most frac sand mines and processing plants in the state and recently, on Aug. 19, the Trempealeau County Board voted to place a moratorium on frac sand permits for one year.

One of the reasons for passing the moratorium was to study the health impacts of silica dust, which has never been done before.

"Is this an unreasonable action?" Danou asked. "Ab-

employees to monitor the sand industry, but Danou doesn't believe that is enough. In August, he introduced a bill to hire eight more, but the bill has stalled in the Republican-majority legislature.

Danou said that the DNR is saying that the state DNR doesn't have to regulate silica dust as a result of a study from 2005, well before the current frac sand boom. In 2010, the state had five frac sand mines and processing plants, but now there are 105 frac sand mines and 65 processing plants in the state, plus many more seeking permits to begin.

Tiffany, who has proposed three mining bills over recent years, contends that the bill has definite environmental regulations.

"What we are saying with this bill is the state is the environmental regulator, not local governments," he said. "It sets the air and water emission limits often times at the direction of the Environmental Protection Agency. If we have a patchwork of environmental regulations -- that could have a chilling effect on commerce."

Ho-Chunk President Jon Greendeer prepared a statement in which he expressed his opposition to the bill.

"Fortunately for this committee, I am not a biologist, a geologist, or anything that ends in 'ologist,'" Greendeer wrote. "Given the limited academic knowledge I have on the impacts to health and local communities, I don't think detailed, scientific knowledge is necessary. I only need to know how to explain to an 87-year old tribal member that can't test and monitor her water, even though we have the ability to do so, because



Ho-Chunk Gaming-Black River Falls Bingo Hall

5 miles east of Black River Falls on Hwy. 54

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

7:00-9:00p.m.

Get Involved!

Join in on an open discussion about the sand rush and its encroachment on and around our lands. Hear from local activists and organizers.

The event is free and open to the public.

Social Sponsored and Organized by:
Migizi Advocates for Turtle Island-MATI

For more information:
715.299.4110

HCG-WD Veterans Day Flag Raising Ceremony

Sherman Funmaker
Staff Writer

In 1954 President Dwight D. Eisenhower called for the formation of a Veterans Day National Committee to oversee national planning and coordination of the Veterans Day observance. Since then the 11th of November of every year has been a day of remembrance and ceremony.

As in years past the Ho-Chunk Gaming facilities have



The Commander of the American Legion Post 556 Joe WhiteEagle served as emcee.

held a flag raising ceremony where Native and non-Native veterans are honored for their service to America and this year despite the weather the veterans and their families turned out to honor these men and women who served this nation with pride and honor.

The Commander of the American Legion Post 556, Joe WhiteEagle served as emcee for the morning's ceremony with veterans from the American Legion Post 556 along with the American Legion Post Auxiliary Unit 556 handling the 21-gun salute.

The crowd of about 100 people gathered to honor those veterans that came to honor and to be honored.

The Wisconsin Dells Singers performed the service songs and drum duties for the day's event.

The veterans that attended the ceremony all received complimentary lunch buffet to the Ho-Chunk Gaming Wisconsin Dells Stand Rock

buffet.

The also received \$10 Rewards play from the Ho-Chunk Rewards Club.

Native Americans As Warriors

It is well recognized that, historically, Native Americans have the highest record of service per capita when compared to other ethnic groups. The reasons behind this disproportionate contribution are complex and deeply rooted in traditional American Indian culture. In many respects, Native Americans are no different from others who volunteer for military service. They do, however, have distinctive cultural values that drive them to serve their country. One such value is their proud warrior tradition.

In part, the warrior tradition is a willingness to engage the enemy in battle. This characteristic has been clearly demonstrated by the courageous deeds of Native Americans in combat. However, the warrior tradition is best



American Legion Post 556 perform the 21-gun salute.

exemplified by the following qualities said to be inherent to most if not all Native American societies: strength, honor, pride, devotion, and wisdom. These qualities make a perfect fit with military tradition.

This information is from <http://www.history.navy.mil/faqs/faq61-1.htm>

We honor our veterans for their bravery and because by seeing death on the battlefield, they truly know the greatness of life. --Winnebago Elder

The real secret that makes the Indian such an outstanding soldier is his enthusiasm for the fight. --U.S. Army Major, 1912

Winneshiek highlights Code Talkers at Volk Field Veterans Day Pow-Wow

Ken Luchterhand
Staff Writer

The 36th annual Veterans Day Pow-Wow was held on Saturday, Nov. 9 at Volk Field in Camp Douglas.

The event was filled with food, music, dancing, auction items and an inspirational speech in honor of Veterans Day.

The keynote address, concerning recognition of Ho-Chunk "Code Talkers," was provided by Tribal Veterans Service Officer Sandra Winneshiek.

"On behalf of the United States of America, Act of Congress 2008, gold medals will be awarded to seven Ho-

Chunk World War II Veterans in recognition of service as code talkers during World War II," Winneshiek said.

Winneshiek submitted the names of seven Ho-Chunk Veterans to the Department of Defense (DOD) to be registered and recognized as Code Talkers, and all seven are now registered as code talkers with DOD.

"The Act of Congress 2008 is a Bill enacted by the House of Representatives, H.R. 4544 (110th) Code Talker Recognition of 2008, this bill signed by the president on October 15, 2008, is to require the issuance of medals to recognize the dedication and valor of

Native American code talkers," Winneshiek said.

"Seven Ho-Chunk WWII Veterans will receive a congressional gold medal as an honored Ho-Chunk Nation Code Talker while serving in the United States Armed Forces as a radio operator during World War II," she said. "The Congressional Gold Medal Ceremony Honoring American Indian Code Talkers will be held at the Emancipation Hall of the U.S. Capitol Visitor Center Complex in Washington D.C. on November 20, 2013."

A silver medal will be presented to the Ho-Chunk Nation and a gold medal will be

presented to the next of kin of the veteran.

The seven WWII Code Talkers are Bill Whitebear - WWII- Army- deceased; Bill Mike- WWII- Army- deceased; Jesse Mike- WWII- Army- deceased; Emanuel Thundercloud- WWII- Army- deceased; Benjamin Winneshiek- WWII- Army- deceased; Clifford Blackdeer- WWII- Army- deceased; and Howard Littlejohn- WWII- Army- deceased.

Winneshiek wanted to give special thanks to the people who assisted her in the Code Talkers effort: Monte Green, Clayton Winneshiek, Andy Thundercloud, Robert



Sandra Winneshiek provided the keynote address during the 31st Annual Veterans Day Pow-Wow at Volk Field.

Mann, Paula Winneshiek, William Collins, Jon Thundercloud, Fletcher Collins, George Greendeer, Nehomah Thundercloud, and Virginia Deford.

TOB Veterans Day observance held at TOB

Ken Luchterhand
Staff Writer

A Veterans Day ceremony was held at the Tribal Office Building on Friday, November 8.

To begin the observation, Andy Thundercloud offered the prayer for the event.

The featured keynote speaker was Ho-Chunk member and Hocak Worak Editor Marlon WhiteEagle.

WhiteEagle said that he is a Marine Corps veteran, having



Marlon WhiteEagle told the audience that we need to appreciate and respect what veterans have done for our country and society.

ing served for four years. His family has had a rich history of active duty in the Marine Corps, with his father and brothers also serving in the Corps.

He said he recently took part in the Badger Honor Flight, visiting the war memorials in Washington, D.C. We need such reminders of the cost of defending our county, lest we forget, he said.

"It's like the bumper stickers we see that say, 'Thank a Vet,'" he said. "People need a reminder."

The main reason people serve in the military is to protect our freedoms, he said. Those protecting us are a minority, about 2 percent.

"Will Rogers said, 'We can't all be heroes, because somebody has to sit on the curb and applaud when they go by,'" WhiteEagle said. "So the duties are reserved for the people who serve in the military."

WhiteEagle said the Ho-



Andy Thundercloud provided the prayer for the Veterans Day ceremony at the Tribal Office building on November 8.

Chunk people have a high rate of enlistment in the military is because we are a warrior society and it's how we made it through the ice ages.

"Discipline carried us through, doing the things God put us on the earth to do," he said.

In everyday society, the veterans carry with them that discipline and the moral judgments that improve everyone's way of life.

"Their mere presence makes things better," he said.

Veterans Day Ceremony at HCG-BRF



Despite a very cold and windy day, a Veterans Day observance was held at Ho-Chunk Gaming-Black River Falls on November 11. Members of the Andrew Blackhawk American Legion Post 129 (above) provide a gun salute to all fallen veterans. Singers (below) provide the honor songs for the Veterans Day ceremony.



Four reasons to visit the Medal of Honor Display at The Wisconsin Veterans Museum

New exhibit profiles four Wisconsin medals and coincides with Veterans Day

Nearly 100 years ago, on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918, an armistice was declared between the Allied Nations in Germany in World War I. Designated Armistice Day by President Woodrow Wilson, November 11 has since been renamed Veterans Day to honor all United States veterans and thank them for their willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.

Each year, a National Veterans Day ceremony is held at Arlington National Cemetery. And while the Nation's Capital is a bit far for Wisconsinites to travel, our State's Capital is not. On Wednesday, Nov. 13, The Wisconsin Veteran's Museum in Madison unveils the "Congressional Medal of Honor" display, which showcases four medals given to Wisconsin veterans from WWII and the Korean War. One of the greatest ways to honor our veterans is to spend time learning about their sacrifices, and the new display showcases the awards and the incredible stories that go along with them. Here are four reasons to visit the new exhibit.

1. THE MEDAL OF HONOR IS THE HIGHEST AMERICAN MILITARY AWARD

The Medal of Honor is the greatest honor a military service man or woman can earn and is given to those who showcase personal acts of valor above and beyond the call of duty. It's presented by the President in the name of Congress and is often called the Congressional Medal of Honor. It is bestowed for a deed of supreme valor and is usually awarded posthumously, though there are 79 living recipients of the Medal of Honor. Of the four medals on display, President Truman and President Roosevelt presented three, and then Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Omar N. Bradley in 1951 presented the fourth.

The Medal of Honor was first es-

tablished in 1861, and since then, 3,463 have been awarded, 62 of these awards to Wisconsin veterans. Four of these have become a permanent part of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum collection through a generous donation from the families of the veterans.

2. THE RECIPIENTS ARE A FEW OF WISCONSIN'S MOST HONORED

The men who were awarded these medals are born and raised Wisconsinites. In fact, they may even be from your hometown, which gives you all the more reason to visit.

Staff Sergeant Gerald Endl was born and raised in Fort Atkinson and later moved to Janesville before he entered the Army in 1941. He served in New Guinea as a staff sergeant in the 32nd Infantry Division.

Technical Sergeant Beauford T. Anderson was born in Eagle and later moved to Soldiers Grove. He enlisted in the Army in 1942 and received his medal for a courageous display during the Battle of Okinawa in Japan. He served in the military until 1952.

Second Lieutenant Jerome Sudut, born and raised in Wausau, lied about his age to join the Army in 1946 at just 16-years-old. He received a battlefield commission in 1951 during the Korean War.

Corporal Mitchell Red Cloud, Jr. was born in Hatfield and dropped out of high school to enlist in the Marine Corps in 1941. He served in the military until 1951 and was given a Medal of Honor during a battle in the Korean War. He was also a member of the Ho-Chunk Nation.

3. IF YOU ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT MILITARY HISTORY, THIS IS THE EXHIBIT FOR YOU

The stories associated with the "Congressional Medal of Honor" exhibit are nothing short of incredible. In

the midst of intense battle, these men displayed military brilliance and outsmarted enemies saving U.S. soldiers, and in some cases, losing their own life in the process.

Technical Sergeant Beauford T. Anderson's courage shone during the Battle of Okinawa in Japan. When a powerfully conducted predawn Japanese counterattack struck his unit's flank, Anderson ordered his men to take cover in an old tomb. Armed only with a carbine, Anderson fought the enemy alone. At first, he emptied one magazine at pointblank range onto attackers. He then secured a box of mortar shells, detonated and then hurled them towards the enemy. The combined fire and his mortar shells forced the Japanese to eventually withdraw. Though he suffered a severe shrapnel wound from this battle, Anderson made his way back to the commander to report what had happened. His amazing display of bravery and skills accounted for 25 enemies defeated, along with some enemy supplies destroyed. He also survived.

Anderson's fascinating story is just one of the four on display at the "Congressional Medal of Honor" exhibit. But we won't spoil the rest – visit the museum to hear more.

4. THE VETERANS MUSEUM HAS EVEN MORE TO EXPLORE

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum offers exhibits, an annual living history tour at Forest Hill Cemetery, informational programs, speakers and much more. Visitors can easily spend an entire day at the museum.

Permanent exhibits include "Civil War and the 19th Century," "Through the World Wars" and "Korean War Through Today." These exhibits provide personal accounts of Wisconsin veterans, making it an ideal learning experience for children, school groups and the general public. The Museum



The Medal of Honor given to Corporal Mitchell Red Cloud Jr. will be on display at the Wisconsin Veterans Museum in Madison beginning on November 13.

also houses a number of rare collections including more than 23,000 artifacts of everything from uniforms to battle flags, personal items and souvenirs. The Museum's temporary exhibit titled "The Last Full Measure: Wisconsin in the Civil War" commemorates the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War, with never before seen Civil War artifacts. The Wisconsin Veterans Museum is constantly evolving and improving to provide visitors a unique experience and account of what it was like for Wisconsin's veterans during America's wars.

Nearly 900,000 veterans from Wisconsin served in our wars from the Civil War to the present, and the Wisconsin Veterans Museum exists as a place to learn about and honor all of them.

John F. Kennedy and a Ho-Chunk kid

That day for Sherman Funmaker

Sherman Funmaker
Staff Writer

On Friday November 22, 1963 I was an 11 year old kid sitting in my 6th grade classroom in Mauston, Wisconsin when the news that the President of the United States, John F. Kennedy had been shot in Dallas Texas.

I don't remember anything else about that day. To tell you the truth, there is a lot of my youth that I don't remember, but that is one day I do and always will remember, maybe because I had never seen anything like this on TV and in the news.

I do know that when the news of that shooting was announced over the school speakers that afternoon everyone was in shock. Here I was, this Indian kid in Wisconsin, sitting in a classroom with other kids and that news hit me just as hard as it seemed to hit everyone in that room.

Years later, I would think of that day and wonder why it seemed to hit me so hard. I didn't know why at the time, but I cried like most of the kids and teachers on that day. Maybe that's why 50 years later I remember that day like it was last year.

It was just a shock to see

this on TV right out there in front of the whole world, the President of the United States getting shot and dying for no apparent reason.

I didn't know a lot about this President at that time in my life but he seemed like a real decent guy. Like someone that could do a lot of good for this country.

My parents weren't political at all and as a matter of fact, I don't think they ever voted. If they did, they never said anything about it or about voting or anything that had to do with politics, for sure it wasn't a discussion at the dinner table.

I remember how it made me sad that this man who seemed to be a real good guy was all of a sudden gone...not just gone but gone by the hands of a madman. All that week that is what all we saw on TV and the whole world was watching. Several days after the shooting I and the rest of the world watched as he was laid to rest. Again, very sad day and I found myself again

mourning for a man I knew very little about and someone I had absolutely no connection to.

I thought of that day many times since then. It's strange when we think of things how they are and how they could have been if things happened differently.

Like I said, we were not a political family and while I'm thinking of it maybe there were not a lot of Native families that were involved in politics back then, I think they were too busy trying to raise a family and keeping everybody fed and clothed. That's what my folks were busy doing back then.

It was a different time in the Nation's history, the race to the moon, civil rights, the Cold War, the Bay of Pigs, Martin Luther King speech, the Beatles would soon land in the U.S. and so much more that I don't recall right now.

I don't remember all of them but I do remember Friday, November 22, 1963. A little Indian kid sat in a classroom shed tears for a man that he had no connection to at all. "Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country."

-John F. Kennedy



Marine Corps Ball

Continued from Page 1

of the Ho-Chunk Nation, flanked by the insignias of the U.S. Army 24th Infantry Division and the Carlson Raiders on the buttstock. Near the chamber is a small golden plate that reads, Warrior, Ho-Chunk Nation, flanked by the emblems of the U.S. Army and Marine Corps on one side, and on the other side is another small plate that reads, Cpl Mitchell RedCloud, Recipient Medal of Honor, KIA November 5, 1950, flanked by engravings that read WWII, 1941-1945, USMC, and Korea, 1950-1951, U.S. Army.

The Mitchell RedCloud Detachment also made its college scholarship presentation to this year's recipient, Ho-Chunk tribal member and son of Colin Carrimon, Daniel Carrimon.

The evening ended with dancing and photos.



Ho-Chunk tribal member, Daniel Carrimon, was this year's scholarship recipient.

Garvin awarded for work in archeology

Ken Luchterhand
Staff Writer

George Garvin, Ho-Chunk member and Repatriation Researcher with the Ho-Chunk Nation Cultural Resources, was honored with an award on Thursday, November 7, at the Cartwright Center, University of Wisconsin – La Crosse.

He received the “2013 Distinguished Service Award,” which was given by the Mississippi Valley Archeological Center for Garvin’s work with the department.

“In all honesty, I was shocked when I was asked to accept this award,” Garvin said.

Ho-Chunk President Jon Greendeer gave the acceptance speech on Garvin’s behalf. Greendeer said that Garvin’s work is a difficult job and his service is unique.

Often archeological work is on an emergency basis, when

a burial site has been uncovered during some type of construction.

“They’re not just bones,” Greendeer said. “They are family members.”

So, what George has done has helped in the locating and cataloging of artifacts, but also making sure proper respect has been given to Ho-Chunk ancestors, Greendeer said.

The award was presented by MVAC Projects Director Katherine Stevenson.

“In its 31-year history, MVAC has given out only six Distinguished Service Awards, and this year we are awarding our seventh, to a very special recipient, George Garvin. George is a member of the Ho-Chunk Nation and is the Repatriation Researcher for the Ho-Chunk Nation’s Department of Heritage Preservation Cultural Resources

Division,” Stevenson said.

“For many years, George has worked on some of the most difficult and sensitive issues related to heritage preservation and archaeology, namely, those concerning burial sites, human remains, and objects of cultural patrimony,” she said. “George is widely known and highly respected for this work, and his dedication is legendary, and a model for others. For those of us working at MVAC, he is a valued colleague.”

“He has graciously shared with us his knowledge, his wisdom, and his perspective on these sensitive issues and, in doing so, has changed and expanded our own perspective, contributing to better understanding, cooperation, and good will. We feel honored to be able to work with George, and we wish to honor him, in turn, by giving him this



George Garvin (center) accepted the “2013 Distinguished Service Award” from the Mississippi Valley Archeological Center on November 7. Also present for the award were (left) Ho-Chunk President Jon Greendeer and Heritage Preservation Director Robert Mann.

Distinguished Service award in recognition of his extraordinary accomplishments and commitment to his ongoing work,” Stevenson said.



Sharon Whitebear was sworn-in as Gaming Commissioner on Friday, October 25 at the Tribal Court Courtroom. This is the second time Whitebear has served as Gaming Commissioner, having been appointed Gaming Commissioner from October 1998 thru December 2010. Between the two terms, Whitebear was DOJ Surveillance Training & Development Director working with all of the Nation’s Surveillance Division staff from December 2010 to October 2013.



Halloween Party Winners

- Individual Costume Contest Winners**
- 1st Place- Jim Phillips (Cat Burglar) \$30
 - 2nd Place- Danee Walker (Chucky/Good guy Doll) \$15
 - 3rd Place- Andrea Estebo(Michael Jackson) \$10
- Group/Department Costume Contest Winners**
- 1st Place- Legislative Dept(Thriller) \$100
 - 2nd Place- Labor Dept(Monsters) \$75
 - 3rd Place- Business Dept(Biker Gang) \$50
- Door Decorating Contest**
- 1st Place- Justice Dept \$50
 - 2nd Place- Personnel Dept \$40
 - 3rd Place- Treasury Dept \$30
- Halloween Trivia Game**
- The Justice League \$100 (Shelia Corbine, Wally Apland, Erik Shircel, Katie Funmaker and Nehomah Thundercloud)
 - Medallion Scavenger Hunt Tina Boisen \$50



HO-CHUNK DAY

NOVEMBER 29, 2013

9:00 A.M. Till 3:00 P.M.

CONTINENTAL
BREAKFAST

LUNCH

GAMES

PRIZES

THUNDER
BEAR
DRUM

HO-CHUNK GAMING - BLACK RIVER FALLS BINGO HALL

Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg and Nekoosa make donations to the Aspirus Health Foundation's Festival of Trees Opening Night Gala

Submitted by Lynette LeGarde, Senior Manager/Public Relations –Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg/Nekoosa

Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg and Ho-Chunk Gaming Nekoosa completed Check Presentations to the Aspirus Health Foundation on Monday, November 4, 2013 at the Aspirus Wausau Hospital Center. Staff from Ho-Chunk Gaming Nekoosa and Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg were present along with staff from the Aspirus Health Foundation and Aspirus Comfort Care and Hospice Services at the presentation. Ho-Chunk Gaming Witten-

berg and Ho-Chunk Gaming Nekoosa both donated \$6,100.00 each to the Foundation for the Festival of Trees Opening Night Gala which is scheduled for November 26, 2013. The Festival of Trees is set for November 27, 2013-December 1, 2013 at the Stoney Creek Inn in Rothschild, Wisconsin. Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg and Ho-Chunk Gaming Nekoosa will each have a Christmas Tree and a Mantle on display in the Festival. The donations from the organizations will be used for The Aspirus Comfort Care and Hospice Services.



(L-R): Kalynn Pempek, Executive Director-Aspirus Health Foundation, Tasha Stencil, Comfort Care & Hospice Services Volunteer Coordinator, Dali LePir-Fisher, Festival of Trees Co-Chair, Laura Pearson, Director of Hospice Services, Ryan Miller, Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg - Security Director, Barb Brown, Festival of Trees Gala Co-Chair, Shelley Wilkinson, Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg - Security Administration Assistant, Lynette LeGarde, Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg/Nekoosa-Senior Manager/Public Relations, LeAnthony Pecore, Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg -Promotions Manager, Keith Wolfram, Hospice House Supervisor, Christie Terkelson, Manager Special Events & Projects-Aspirus Health Foundation).

ACS-Check Presentation ‘13

Tris Harris, Senior Manager-Public Relations, Ho-Chunk Gaming

Waiting for text On October 30th, 2013, Ho-Chunk Gaming Black River Falls (HCG-BRF) and Tomah (HCG-Tomah) presented Ms. Lori Francis of the American Cancer Society's Midwest Division with two checks for the Jackson County's Run/Walk-\$4187.77and Monroe County's Relay for Life annual fundraising events. Executive Manager, Mr. Greg Garvin is a big supporter of this cause saying "This disease affects so many people not only in this area, but around the World. It is not only important for us to help those in need, but also aide in the research to cure this

deadly disease. Many of our staff have a close connection with this disease as it affects their family members as well as themselves. They are willing to do what it takes to raise funds to help. I am proud to say that combined our Tomah staff and our BRF staff raised over \$3400!"

On top of the funds raised by the staff, HCG-BRF also donated \$1000 to each of these events as well as Clark County, Eau Claire County and La Crosse County's events. Beyond that, Ho-Chunk Gaming Wisconsin, as a whole, donated a total of \$30,000 for the events across the State of Wisconsin, \$5000 of that coming from HCG-BRF & Tomah. The Team Captain for HCG- BRF, Angie

Melbye, said she "can't wait to start next year's fundraising to be the #1 fundraising team again next year!" And HCG-Tomah's Team Captain, Pam Kasper said "I enjoy the Relay for Life each year. I have made a lot of friends that understand the issues my family has endured because of Cancer." Both Angie and Pam have spoken at these events over the past few years, sharing their experiences and comforting those that are new to helping this cause.

Both events are making strides in funding research, prevention, early detection, treatment and much more and Ho-Chunk Gaming BRF and Tomah will continue to support the American Cancer Society.



(L to R-Seated): Pam Kasper, HCG-Tomah Team Captain, Lori Francis, American Cancer Society Midwest Division Specialist, Tris Harris HCG-BRF, Standing: HCG-BRF Run/Walk Participants Ryan Melbye, Angie Melbye, Team Captain, Kari Peterson, Sam Shoemaker, Nora Young, Eric Kravcik and Lynda Heinz.

SUMMONS

(Second Publication)

IN THE HO-CHUNK NATION TRIAL COURT

Midland Funding LLC. By its Servicing Agent Midland Credit Management Inc., Petitioner, v. Clarice Jackson, Respondent.

Case : CG 13-113

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT: Clarice Jackson

You are hereby informed that you have been named a respondent in the above-entitled civil lawsuit. This legal notice of the *Petition to Register & Enforce a Foreign Judgment or Order* is now served upon you by publication. Your written *Answer to the Petition* must be filed with the Court on or before the twentieth day from the date of the second published issuance of this *Summons*. You may request a hearing within your written response. See RECOGNITION OF FOREIGN CHILD SUPPORT ORDERS ORDINANCE, 4 HCC § 2.5. Also, you must send or present a copy of your *Answer to the opposing party listed above or to their attorney of record*. Failure to file a timely *Answer* in the time allowed *can affect your right to object to the enforcement of the foreign judgment or order*. *Id.*, § 2.6c.

The Trial Court is physically located at Wa Ehi Hocira, W9598 Highway 54 East, Black River Falls, (Jackson County) Wisconsin. The Trial Court's mailing address is P. O. Box 70, Black River Falls, WI 54615. The telephone number is (715) 284-2722, or toll free 800-434-4070, and the facsimile number is (715) 284-3136.

SUMMONS

(Second Publication)

IN THE HO-CHUNK NATION TRIAL COURT

Sauk County Clerk of Courts, Petitioner, v. Orvilla R. WhiteEagle, Respondent.

Case : CG 13-98

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT: Orvilla R. WhiteEagle

You are hereby informed that you have been named a respondent in the above-entitled civil lawsuit. This legal notice of the *Petition to Register & Enforce a Foreign Judgment or Order* is now served upon you by publication. Your written *Answer to the Petition* must be filed with the Court on or before the twentieth day from the date of the second published issuance of this *Summons*. You may request a hearing within your written response. See RECOGNITION OF FOREIGN CHILD SUPPORT ORDERS ORDINANCE, 4 HCC § 2.5. Also, you must send or present a copy of your *Answer to the opposing party listed above or to their attorney of record*. Failure to file a timely *Answer* in the time allowed *can affect your right to object to the enforcement of the foreign judgment or order*. *Id.*, § 2.6c.

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SUMMONS

(Second Publication)

IN THE HO-CHUNK NATION TRIAL COURT

State of Wisconsin, Laura Goetkza, Petitioner, v. Tasha M. King, Respondent.

Case : CS 13-38

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT: Tasha M. King

You are hereby informed that you have been named a respondent in the above-entitled civil lawsuit. This legal notice of the *Petition to Register & Enforce a Foreign Judgment or Order* is now served upon you by publication. Your written *Answer to the Petition* must be filed with the Court on or before the twentieth day from the date of the second published issuance of this *Summons*. You may request a hearing within your written response. See RECOGNITION OF FOREIGN CHILD SUPPORT ORDERS ORDINANCE, 4 HCC § 2.5. Also, you must send or present a copy of your *Answer to the opposing party listed above or to their attorney of record*. Failure to file a timely *Answer* in the time allowed *can affect your right to object to the enforcement of the foreign judgment or order*. *Id.*, § 2.6c.

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SUMMONS

(Second Publication)

IN THE HO-CHUNK NATION TRIAL COURT

Black River Memorial Hospital, Petitioner, v. Luis & Melissa Olvera Marquez, Respondent.

Case : CG 13-115

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT: Luis & Melissa Olvera Marquez

You are hereby informed that you have been named a respondent in the above-entitled civil lawsuit. This legal notice of the *Petition to Register & Enforce a Foreign Judgment or Order* is now served upon you by publication. Your written *Answer to the Petition* must be filed with the Court on or before the twentieth day from the date of the second published issuance of this *Summons*. You may request a hearing within your written response. See RECOGNITION OF FOREIGN CHILD SUPPORT ORDERS ORDINANCE, 4 HCC § 2.5. Also, you must send or present a copy of your *Answer to the opposing party listed above or to their attorney of record*. Failure to file a timely *Answer* in the time allowed *can affect your right to object to the enforcement of the foreign judgment or order*. *Id.*, § 2.6c.

The Trial Court is physically located at Wa Ehi Hocira, W9598 Highway 54 East, Black River Falls, (Jackson County) Wisconsin. The Trial Court's mailing address is P. O. Box 70, Black River Falls, WI 54615. The telephone number is (715) 284-2722, or toll free 800-434-4070, and the facsimile number is (715) 284-3136.

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Happy 7th
Birthday
Jivon
Grey Owl

Love:
Dad, Ga-ga,
Cho-ka and Family



CONGRATULATIONS RACHEL CLOUD

for your participation and winning four medals in the “Phoenix International Darts Tournament” that was held in Las Vegas, Nevada! Your winning qualified you to play for TEAM USA, in the “Summer International Dart Festival Tournament” being held in Korea next year! We are all so proud of you and your accomplishments!! Wishing you the best of luck next year and years to come!!!!

Love Mom and family
XOXOXOX



Notice of Monthly Meeting

HHCDA
Ho-Chunk Housing & Community
Development Agency
(HUD Housing)

HHCDA Commissioners Lee Brown Jr., Karena Thundercloud, Colin Carrimon, Francis Decorah, Martin Littlewolf Jr., Leonard Walker, Gerald Cleveland, Terrence Johnson, Cheri Byhre, Lisa Stroessner, and John Dall

Will meet on Thursday, November 21st, 2013, at 6:00 PM, at the HHCDA Office in Tomah (Corner of Monowau Street & Sime Avenue).

Agenda items by noon on Monday, November 11th, 2013 to the Board Secretary at 608-374-1245, extension 222.

On March 28, 2013 the Creator whispered the name of Aa naacu xete, (Delbert Cleveland) and welcomed him into the Kingdom of Heaven and blessed him with Everlasting life. Several months have passed since he left us, the Cleveland Family would like to say Thank You to all of our family, relatives and friends; you blessed us with your presence at the Gunderson Lutheran Hospital, at Devotions and at his final departure. Your loving expressions toward the Creator on our behalf will forever be in our hearts. We are very thankful for all of the monetary donations, cards, flowers and food, all of which made it easier for us to let our Brother go home.

A special thank you to our Son and Nephew, Vanverd Dick, Jr. and all his helpers; who led us in prayer during this most difficult time in our lives, and to our Nani Deedee and all of her helpers for the wonderful meals they prepared for us. Together they nourished our Souls and Bodies, so that we could find the strength to say Thank you and acknowledge the blessing that was bestowed upon our beloved Brother.


I would be remiss if I didn’t express gratitude toward the Nation for the Health Care provided by the Elder Care Program prior to his hospitalization, for the generous bereavement donation and to the Staff at the Gunderson Lutheran Hospital who provided excellent Health Care up to his passing.


Treasured Seasons...

For everything there is an appointed season, And a time for everything under heaven...A time for sowing, a time for reaping; A time for sharing, a time for caring; A time for loving, a time for giving; A time for remembering, a time for parting. You have made everything beautiful in its time. For everything you do remains forever.

With much gratitude...

~The Cleveland Family





Nekoosa Community DM Breakfast

Where: Nekoosa Ho-Chunk Health Office
315 1st St., Nekoosa

When: The second Friday of each month
at 10:00 am

**Please join us for a healthy breakfast,
activity and raffle.**

December 13, 2013	July 11, 2014
January 10, 2014	August 8, 2014
February 14, 2014	September 12, 2014
March 14, 2014	October 10, 2014
April 11, 2014	November 14, 2014
May 9, 2014	December 12, 2014
June 13, 2014	

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Home Buyer Education

Come and join our Homebuyer Education class. This will be informative and give you the tools you need to begin your home buying journey. Lunch and door prizes will be provided. Call for a seat (608) 374-1245 Ext 238

Saturday November 23, 2013
8:30 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.
HHCDA Office
1116 E Monowau Street
Tomah, WI



Sponsored by *Ho-Chunk Housing & Community Development Agency*

UW Badgers Annual Red/White Basketball Scrimmage 2013

Sherman Funmaker
Staff Writer

It started with players being introduced one by one and doing a 20 second dance routine with a member of the UW Dance Team on a chilly Saturday night at the Kohl Center in Madison, WI. Not the typical introduction, but very fitting for the seemingly festive night of basketball.

Let's hope that they play ball better than they dance.

The players, coaches and crowd of about five thousand all seemed to like the playful and entertaining introduction.

The Badger fans were also treated with the national anthem performed by freshman player Vitto Brown who is a 6' 8" 237 pound forward from Bowling Green, Ohio.

The Red team consisted mostly of veteran players while the White teams were a freshman loaded squad.

The White team was led by high scorer for the night, sophomore Sam Dekker, who finished with 18 points. Frank Kaminsky also added nine rebounds and 16 points for his White team.

The Red team was led by guard Ben Brust scoring 16 points and George Marshall ended up with 14 points.

The much heralded freshman class got its first look at the Kohl Center crowd and held their own in this close match.

Nigel Hayes scored seven points with two rebounds, Vitto Brown added four points and four rebounds while Ho-Chunk tribal member and heavily recruited guard, Bronson Koenig scored five points with three assists hitting 1 of 2 three-pointers.

Koenig looked good and right at home in his first game as a Badger.

He showed his passing and ball handling skills bringing the ball up the court for the White team. He displayed his leadership skills calling plays and keeping his team in the game during this, what turned out to be a very close match. His White team erased a 13-point lead during the second half of play.

Head coach Bo Ryan looked pleased as his team took turns taking the lead and giving the crowd a first look at what seems to be a very talented, well balanced squad. The



Guard Bronson Koenig reacts as team erases a 13-point deficit.



Vitto Brown and fellow freshman Bronson Koenig.

Badgers look to get back to the NCAA tournament again this year.

The Wisconsin Badgers will host an exhibition contest against UW-Platteville on Wednesday, Oct. 30 at 7 p.m. at the Kohl Center.

Mikaylah dazzles during Miss Teen Minneapolis/St. Paul Pageant

Ken Luchterhand
Staff Writer

Many young ladies dream about someday taking the stage and impressing the audience and judges in a beauty pageant, yet few are ever luck enough to do so.

Mikaylah Larson had such a chance, having entered in a pageant in her home state.

She was a contestant at the 2014 Miss Teen Minneapolis/St. Paul Pageant on Sunday, October 20, and, although she wasn't selected as a finalist,

she enjoyed every minute of it.

"I would do it again," she said. "It was fun."

Mikaylah is the daughter of Ho-Chunk member Dan Libke, Black River Falls, and Juanita Larson, Alexandria, Minn. Libke works in the Ho-Chunk Education Department.

She first got the idea to enter the pageant when she received a letter in the mail, telling her about it and giving instructions how to enter.

After a short time of de-

cision making, she decided to enter, taking her old prom dress out of the closet and getting it ready.

A few days after she replied by entering the competition, she got a phone call for a telephone interview. From the interviews and auditions conducted with all entrants, the chosen few were selected to be part of the actual pageant on Oct. 20. Between 1,300 and 1,400 tried out for the pageant, but only 300 were accepted.

The weekend before the event, all the contestants gathered for what was called a training day, which showed the contestants how to get ready, walk and talk, etc.

The actual pageant was held from 4 to 7 p.m.

"It was easy," she said. I didn't have any butterflies – I was not nervous at all."

Her family and a select few friends even knew about her entrance into the competition.

"I only told three friends," she said. "They were all crossing their fingers for me."

As part of the pageant competition, all the contestants were asked a question before the judges and the audience. Mikaylah's question was,



Mikaylah does her best to answer the question, "What is the highest goal you would like to achieve in life."

"What is the highest goal you would like to achieve in life?"

Her answer was, "I would like to go to college, get a good education and go further to seek other goals."

Mikaylah is 17 and a senior at Alexandria High School

in Minnesota. She plans to pursue higher education in English or biology. She might even give the pageant experience another try some day.

"Yeah, I might try for Miss America some day," she said. "It would be fun."



Mikaylah Larson displays her attire at the 2014 Miss Teen Minneapolis/St. Paul Pageant.